



news and information
for employees of the
City of Saint Paul

June 16, 2000

In this issue

Employee Spotlight
shines on Robert Sladky

Good posture can
reduce repetitive stress

E-Governance can bring
the City to the citizens

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City Update

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Como Zoo builds attractive new animal exhibits

The Como Zoo's three Galapagos Tortoises are now on exhibit for the first since their arrival in 1992. The new exhibit is located on the north end of the Land and Water Bird exhibit. The tortoises were recently moved to their new home (when the weather got warm enough).

These tortoises have grown from approximately three ounces on arrival to the zoo, to their current weights of around 120 pounds. Adults tortoises can weigh as much as 500 pounds for males, and 350 pounds for females. These giant tortoises have been known to live up to 150 years.

Three male Emperor Tamarins are now in a new outdoor exhibit that is unique to Saint Paul's zoo. Located between the outdoor Gorilla and Orangutan exhibits and inside the public barrier is a small stand of trees.



The new Tamarin exhibit at Como Zoo

What makes this exhibit unique is that there is no mesh or other material enclosing the trees of the new summer home for this bachelor

ZOO EXHIBITS continued on page 3



Armando Gutierrez G. and Jan Spencer are working here on Sunday June 11th on the City of Saint Paul-sponsored Snoopy statue, entitled "Snoopy Goes to Dia de los Muertos." The "Day of the Dead" is a Mexican festival day to celebrate, remember, and prepare special foods in honor of those who have departed. Over 100 artists and craftworkers were at RiverCentre June 10th-11th decorating and painting Snoopys for PEANUTS ON PARADE. Be sure to see this spectacular and finely detailed Snoopy, which will be located on Kellogg Boulevard, right outside the City Hall and Courthouse.

www.ci.stpaul.mn.us

Places to go. Things to do.

ilovesaintpaul.com

Employee Spotlight

Roberta Sladky has always known she wanted to work with plants and people, at least since her first year at the University of Wisconsin (Madison). That's why she majored in Ornamental Horticulture. And it's why, at the University of Delaware, she took her Masters in Public Horticulture.

Since she was a youngster, Roberta, now Conservatory Manager at Como Park, has been interested in science, especially botany, the science of plants. But Roberta is also a "people person," so she knew a public garden with lots of visitors would be the perfect job for her.

As Conservatory Manager, Roberta is responsible for the floral displays and maintenance of the Como Park Conservatory. She also oversees landscaping of the Como Park Zoo, the entertainment and concessions area, and floral gardens — the "Como campus."

The Conservatory's highly successful "Under Glass" concert series has been a favorite project of hers since 1994. The winter and spring concerts were the idea of a volunteer, but brought to life and tended to by Roberta and her staff.

Roberta is particularly proud of the frequency of fresh flower shows in the Conservatory's Sunken Garden. Saint Paul has a much greater turnaround in its floral



displays than most public conservatories, in large part because the City's displays and growing houses are in the same location.

She has lots of things she likes about her job, including the great people she works with, the daily reward of happy, smiling visitors, and the pleasure of being around beautiful and fascinating plants.

Roberta came to City employment seven years ago. Her career started out with ten years at the U of M's School of Botany, followed by six years at the Minnesota Zoo. Her husband, Bob, still works at the Minnesota Zoo. She believes the two of them have Minnesota's only "inter-zoo marriage." She and Bob are growing — raising, that is — three children.

Good Posture Reduces Risk of Repetitive Stress Injuries

Sitting properly in an adjustable task chair can help you reduce the risk of repetitive stress injuries like carpal tunnel syndrome and tendinitis. It can also help to minimize discomfort in the upper back, neck, and arms. This can be accomplished by following these guidelines on good posture:

- ✓ Keep your feet flat on the floor. You may vary the position of your feet, but try to keep them flat on the floor most of the time.
- ✓ The knees should be lower than the hips.
- ✓ Knees should be positioned so they are at least hip width apart.
- ✓ The lower back should be supported by the back rest of the chair. If there is no lumbar curve built into the back rest of the chair, a rolled towel or other retrofit device may be used and anchored to the back rest.
- ✓ Upper arms should hang down from the shoulder so the lower arms are parallel with the floor when placed on the keyboard.
- ✓ The monitor should be placed directly in front of the employee.
- ✓ Regular phone use can be accommodated by using a head-phone or an angled phone stand.
- ✓ Practice mild stretching exercises 3 or 4 times each day.
- ✓ Memorize the acronym GUAM. It stands for, "Get Up And Move."

Good posture may also be enhanced when lying down. Lie on your side with your legs slightly bent toward your chest or on your back with a pillow placed under your knees. Sleeping with more than one pillow under your head can exaggerate your neck curve and cause undue stress on your back. Choose a firm mattress for adequate back support. Using good posture techniques throughout your day can make you feel better!

A worker from Kraus-Anderson Construction unloads Snoopys on Friday, June 9th, at Touchstone Energy® Place at RiverCentre in preparation for the colorful and well attended PEANUTS Paint-Off event on the 10th and 11th. City organizers planned to begin displaying the decorated and painted Snoopy statues June 15th. See the latest info at www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/peanutsonparade, or visit www.snoopy.com and click on the PEANUTS ON PARADE logo.



E-Governance Initiative brings City service and community building into Cyberspace.

by Steve Nelson

It's all around us. You don't have to go very far to hear someone talking about "dot.coms," the internet, intranets, e-commerce, frames, java scripts and the rest of the new vocabulary that came with the Digital Revolution.

Well, add "E-Governance" to the list. E-Governance is the term that describes the nation-wide push to take advantage of new technologies to improve government service to its customers.

Saint Paul City government has been keeping pace with most cities our size in exploring these services.

Over the last few months a City-wide initiative to more fully integrate e-governance into our everyday service delivery has been gaining steam.

The E-Governance initiative began in response to Mayor Coleman's State of the City address pledge to use the same technology which is revolutionizing our economy, to "revolutionize politics and our governance as well."

Chaired by Sean Kershaw of Planning and Economic Development, the team working on the

initiative is identifying and implementing ways to use technology to improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of City services. It will also work to use the internet to increase citizen access to community resources and decision-making processes.

For Kershaw the point of the initiative is that technology has the potential to transform the delivery of City services. All stakeholders, especially City staff, must be involved in this process.

"I think the E-Governance initiative is important because it provides us with an opportunity to increase the quality of City services, and to improve the ability of citizens and City staff to access community resources and solve problems in Saint Paul," Kershaw said.

E-Governance-related projects currently slated for implementation include online permitting and licenses, improving and expanding the City's web site and intranet site, doing financial transactions online, and more. There is also work going on to more aggressively promote

the digital service options already offered throughout the City.

Getting the community involved is a focal point of the effort, Kershaw said. One key part of that is creating more opportunities for residents to access E-Governance services.

Projects now on the table include involving residents in electronic "discussions" on neighborhood issues such as crime prevention, getting more neighborhood planning information online, and the implementation of online voting.

"As much as possible, I think government should increase the capacity of citizens to address community issues. I'm personally interested in this because we don't know yet how far we can push technology in this regard. We don't know yet what the limits are, or what the potential is," Kershaw said.

Watch for more information on the initiative in coming weeks or look at the draft E-Governance workplan on the City intranet at <http://theorb.ci.stpaul.mn.us>.

ZOO EXHIBITS continued from page 1

group of tamarins. This means the tamarins are able to freely range throughout the tree canopies. Zoo crews are selectively pruning the trees and encircling the tree trunks with loose-fitting metal sleeves, so the tamarins are expected to stay within the stand of trees.

The three tamarins will be fitted with radio tracking collars to allow the staff to locate them, should they find a way to venture too far. This type of exhibit has proven successful with Golden Lion Tamarins at several other zoos.

The new Galapagos Tortoise exhibit and landscaping at Como Zoo



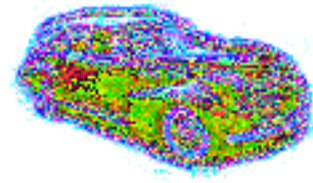
Minnesota Twins encourage reading

Minnesota Twins infielder Denny Hocking and Twins mascot "TC" recently visited Nokomis Montessori Magnet School to congratulate students on their participation in the Saint Paul Reads initiative and to encourage them to keep reading. Hocking delivered bookmarks and a list of suggested summer reading — including an array of baseball books — to Nokomis students. Later in the day, infielder Ron Coomer and "TC" visited Humboldt Junior High School to promote reading at the secondary level.

To expand support of Saint Paul Reads, the Minnesota Twins, in partnership with the Lerner Publishing Group, are donating more than 20,000 of the bookmarks to the Saint Paul Public Schools for distribution to all elementary students before school was dismissed for the summer June 13th.

The bookmarks feature a photo of five Twins players — outfielder Chad Allen, third baseman Corey Koskie, pitcher Joe Mays, outfielder Jacques Jones, and outfielder Torii Hunter — all reading baseball books. The text encourages the students to "read every chance you get." The Twins also are providing matching posters to all Saint Paul elementary schools.

Earlier this year, Nokomis elementary students celebrated the new millennium by reading 2000 books in a day. Each time they finished a book, they added another section to the bookworm they were creating in the Media Center. The finished bookworm is now displayed at Nokomis.



Fifth summer of Classic cars

Capital City Classic Cruisers continues this summer, every Friday and Saturday night through October 7th.

This summer the 1965 and older cars will be moving from Kellogg Boulevard back to Wabasha Street between 4th to 7th Street. The show officially starts at 6:00 p.m. There's no admission charge, and no competition. Food vendors are at hand and downtown restaurant are open for your enjoyment.

During the past seasons some nights have drawn over 500 classic cars. For information on music and special events at the car shows, see www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/welcome/activities/events.html

City job openings as of June 16th, 2000

Application deadline	Job title	Bi-weekly or hourly salary rate	Exam date
06/21/00	Architect I - Board of Education	\$1503.97	6/26/00
Open	Clerical assistant (part-time)	\$9.00 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Communications Tech Helper (seasonal/full-time)	\$11.90 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Communications Technician	\$1365.82	See Job Ann
Open	Communications Technician Trainee	\$1171.33	See Job Ann
Open	ECC Telecommunicator	\$1308.98	See Job Ann
06/27/00	Fire Training Assistant (prom)	\$2033.60	07/10/00
Open	Golf Ranger (part-time/seasonal)	\$6.17 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	House Custodian I (part-time)	\$9.00 per hr	TBN
Open	IS Information/Technical Analyst II	\$1397.98	See Job Ann
Open	IS Information/Technical Analyst III	\$1550.12	See Job Ann
Open	IS Information/Technical Analyst IV	\$1721.14	See Job Ann
Open	IS Systems Support Specialist II	\$1148.08	See Job Ann
Open	IS Systems Support Specialist III	\$1397.98	See Job Ann
Open	Food Service Assistant (part-time)	\$9.01 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Food Service Helper (part-time)	\$8.00 per hr	See Job Ann
06/30/00	Food Service Supervisor II (part-time)	\$12.68	07/13/00
06/21/00	License and Permit Aide	\$1013.64	07/06/00
Open	Life Guard (temporary)	\$7.25 per hr	TBN
Open	Park Aide (part-time/seasonal)	\$7.06 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Refectory Attendant (part-time/seasonal)	\$9.17 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Senior Pool Attendant (part-time/seasonal)	\$8.75 per hr	See Job Ann
06/21/00	Sheet Metal Worker	\$28.74 per hr	06/23/00
Open	Swimming Pool Supervisor (part-time/seasonal)	\$10.25 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Ticket Sellers - RiverCentre (part-time)	\$6.50 per hr (in training)	TBN
Open	Water Safety Instructor (temporary)	\$7.75 per hr	TBN

** This is a walk-in-examination. Do not submit a job application before the test.

Note: Call or visit the Office of Human Resources to receive the official job announcement for these positions. Location: 400 City Hall Annex. Phone: 651-266-6500 (TTY/TDD 651-266-6501) or visit the website: www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/jobopenings. For jobs announced after June 9th, please call our 24-hour job line, 651-266-6502.